CLARK
HISTORY
COUNTY
1886
D6

4/2005
06

ECKHART PUBLIC LIBRARY
603 S. Jackson St.
Auburn, IN 46706

PIONEER FAMILIES OF CLARK COUNTY, INDIANA

by

W.H. McCoy

1886

Copied by Elizabeth Hayward

1947

Higginson Book Company
Salem, Massachusetts

977.218
McCO

ECKHART PUBLIC LIBRARY
603 S. Jackson St.
Auburn, IN 46706

PIONEER FAMILIES OF CLARK COUNTY, INDIANA

by

W.H. McCoy

1886

Copied by Elizabeth Hayward

1947

Higginson Book Company
Salem, Massachusetts

Reprinted by –

HIGGINSON BOOK COMPANY
148 Washington Street,
Post Office Box 778
Salem, Massachusetts 01970

Phone: 978/745-7170 *Fax*: 978/745-8025

A complete catalog of thousands of genealogy and local history reprints is available from Higginson Books. Please write or call to order, or for more information.

This facsimile reprint has been photo-reproduced on acid-free paper. Hardcover bindings are Class A archival quality.

Visit our web site at **www.higginsonbooks.com**.

THE PIONEER FAMILIES OF CLARK COUNTY

By W. H. McCoy

1886

The Democrat, a Clark county, Indiana, newspaper, reported in the issue of May 21, 1886, the meeting of the Silver Creek Cemeterial Association held near Charlestown. No complete copy of this issue has been found, nor any for May, 1885, which presumably carried the first installment of McCoy's account of early families of the vicinity. A single page, however, is in the keeping of a grand-daughter of W. H. McCoy and from that the following pages have been transcribed. In addition to McCoy's article the report includes a list of eleven deaths that occurred in 1885-6, part of an address by the Rev. A. I. Hobbs of Louisville and a news story of the meeting.

Copied and indexed by Elizabeth Hayward

Ridgewood, New Jersey

1947

Taking part in the program were Dr. D. H. Coombs, who presided; Elder A. N. Littell, who read the Scriptures; the Rev. William McCoy of Washington county, who delivered the morning address; Elder A. I. Hobbs of Louisville, Ky., a former resident of Decatur county, who gave the afternoon address; Elder Henry Jackson, William Kahl and the Misses Kahl, who sang as a quartet; Elder Harry Jackson of Stanley; the Rev. Bright and the Rev. Moore; the editor of the Democrat and W. H. McCoy of Franklin, secretary or clerk of the association, who "continued the history of the pioneer families of Clark county, which he commenced last year," as follows:

"The families and individuals, of whom we shall give a brief history in this the second chapter of our paper, are the Littells, Bowells, Hugents, Nathan Kelly, Thomas Broadstreet, Jeremiah Payne, Whites, Sellers, Peytons, Worralls, Harrods, Perrys, Bottorffs, Capt. John Norris, McCormicks, Listers, McCoys, Jonah Harris, Dr. Kellogg and Kahls." (See also index, p. 14. ER)

"The LITTELL family is quite largely represented in our cemetery. Mr. Absalom Littell, Sr., was the father of this family, and he was of English descent. He came from New Jersey to Pennsylvania. In 1799 he moved to this Territory with his family. He settled on the farm which is known as Josiah Littell's some four miles below here on Silver Creek. He was an Elder in the Presbyterian church, and lived and died in that faith. His sons were Abraham, Amos, John, Thompson, Absalom and Josiah. He also had two daughters, Anna and Margret. Anna was the wife of a Mr. Petijohn, and after the death of Mr. Petijohn, she married Samuel Tilford.

"Margaret was the wife of Elder Moses Seller[illegible]

"Of Abraham Littell we can give but little history. He married and moved from this part of the State, and settled near Gosport, Ind.

"Amos Littell was the first of this family to join the Silver Creek church, which was September 27th, 1813. He married Miss Lydia McCoy, daughter of Elder Wm. McCoy, Sr. His farm and home was near New Providence, where he died and is buried. His life was that of a Christian. He was noted for his kindness and helpfulness to the sick.

"John Thompson Littell joined Silver Creek church July 23rd, 1814. He was the father of Elder Wilbern Littell. He lived and died in Washington county, this State.

"Absalom Littell joined Silver Creek church, Oct. 16th, 1816. He was licensed and ordained by this church, to preach. He was the accepted pastor of the church many years. He, probably, in his day and time, baptised and married more persons than any other one minister. His home and farm was near Sellersburg where his son-in-law, Mr. Crim, now lives. He owned the land where the village of Hamburg is located; he laid out the town and gave it its name. Elder Absalom Littell was a man very much respected and possessed many sterling qualities. He died a few years ago and is buried in the Cemetery West of the village of Hamburg. His first wife and some of their children are buried in the Cemetery here.

"Josiah Littell, the youngest son, lived and died on the farm of his father. He and a number of his children are buried here. He was a good neighbor, zealous Christian and was known by his neighbors as "Uncle Josiah." He was the father of Elder Absalom N. Lit-

tell, the Vice President of our Association, and who has not failed to meet with us at any time since our organization. "Old Silver Creek Cemetery" is a sacred spot to the Littells.

"Near by the burial spot of the Carr's, we see the name of BOWELL on a number of tombstones. This family was related to the Carr's. The family is of English and French extraction. They first settled in Maryland, then moved into Pennsylvania, and from there came to this Territory soon after Col. Thomas Carr, Sr., came -- which was in 1806. John Bowell, the son of Bazel Bowell, Sr., was born in Fayette county, Pa., 1784. He married Betsy Carr, the eldest daughter of Col. Thomas Carr, Sr., in 1808. He joined Silver Creek church Oct. 26th, 1816. He was a member of the building committee, which built the brick church in 1823-24, out of the bricks of which this church is made, in which we today are assembled. He was the father of "Aunt Amy Drummonds," the wife of James Drummonds, who both lately paid this neighborhood and vicinity a visit from their home in Laporte co., Ind. He lived on Sinking Fork until 1834, when he moved to Laporte co., Ind. Here he died in 1866, aged 81 years. His wife died the same year, aged 77 years.

"Basil Bowell, a younger brother of John, came to this Territory in 1811. He came all the way from Pennsylvania to care for the wife and children of his brother-in-law, Mr. William Coombs, who was drafted in the army. He was the father of Mr. George Bowell who now lives in Memphis, Ind. He died in 1854 and is buried in this cemetery.

"Nathan KELLY, whose name appears on the church roll, was the shoemaker of this neighborhood. He was an old soldier. His feet

were frozen while in the army. He was a man fond of joking. He especially delighted to tease and joke the young people. His daughter Betsy married "Jerry" Perry. He died some time in the forties. He is buried in the cemetery at Sellersburg.

"Thomas BRADDSTREET and Lurene Broadstreet were of the first of the members of Silver Creek church. Thomas Broadstreet was a preacher. He lived where Mr. George Diedrich now lives. He was from Carolina. Many years ago he removed to the Northern part of this State.

"Jeremiah PAYNE became a member of Silver Creek church June 1816. He married Miss Sallie McCoy, a daughter of Elder Wm. McCoy, Sr. He came from Kentucky in about 1810, and settled on Sinking Fork on the farm now known as the White farm. He was a great friend of the Peyton family. They settled near each other. Mr. J. Payne moved to Washington county, Ind., in about the year 1822. His home and farm, in Washington county, was where Harristown is on the New Albany, Salem and Chicago Rail Road. Here he died some time in the fifties.

"The names of John and Hannah WHITE are found here upon two tombstones, marking their graves. John White was born in Pennsylvania. He was the son of a sister of Col. Thomas Carr, Sr., who died in Pennsylvania. He and two sisters came from Pennsylvania with Col. Thomas Carr, Sr., who cared for them. Mr. White married Miss Hannah Carr, a daughter of Elisha Carr, Sr. He was a tanner by trade. He bought Mr. Jeremiah Payne's farm on Sinking Fork in 1822, where he lived until his death. C. C. White, his son, owned the same farm afterwards.

"Mary White, John White's sister, was the wife of Jesse Coombs, the father of our President, Dr. D. H. Coombs.

"The NUGENTS, whose name is found both on the Silver Creek church roll, and some of the tombstones here, are originally from Maryland. From Maryland they came to Kentucky at an early day. Three brothers came from Kentucky to Indiana, and settled at Springville. The elder of these three brothers was a wheel-wright by trade, but he soon died. His brother, John R., then took possession of his shop, and continued the business for a number of years. John R., giving up the occupation of wheel-wright, turned his attention to farming, and finally bought the farm where Mr. George Nugent, his son, now lives. Here he reared quite a large family, of whom are Conner, Thomas, Clayborn, Jefferson, George and Richard." (Comment by the editor of the Democrat: "The remarkable Nugent family of thirteen children, the oldest of whom, Conner Nugent, of Franklin, Ind., aged seventy-six, and the youngest, George W. Nugent, of Clark, aged fifty-three, were both present at the meeting. The other eleven children are all alive. .... remarkable case of longevity ...")

"Bennett Nugent, one of the three brothers, settled on a farm where now is the village of Bennetsville. He laid out this town, and it was named for him. He followed farming, trading and merchandising. He was the father of Andrew and Ross Nugent. Lydia Nugent, the wife of Bennett Nugent, appears on the church roll of Silver Creek church as early as 1816.

"John R. Nugent and his wife are buried here. Bennett Nugent and his wife are buried near Bennetsville.

"Robert SELLERS and Sarah Sellers were members of the old church at an early day.

"We suppose Robert Sellers was the father of Elder Moses Sellers. This family was from Virginia. They settled in Kentucky before 1800. In about 1810 they came to this territory.

"Elder Moses Sellers joined Silver Creek church, April 26, 1817, by letter. His home and farm was where now is the town of Sellersburg. He laid out this town and it bears his name. He married Miss Margaret Littell. Eleven of their children are buried here. Elder Moses Sellers and his wife are buried in the Sellersburg cemetery.

"John PEYTON, Charlotte Peyton, Daniel Peyton, Terry Peyton and Micajah Peyton are names found on the roll of the old church. This family came from Virginia to Kentucky and from Kentucky to this Territory in about 1800. John and Daniel settled on land on Sinking Fork near the White farm.

"Micajah Peyton settled on land on Muddy Fork, near the village of Bridgeport.

"John and Charlotte Peyton were the parents of Daniel and Micajah Peyton. John and Charlotte Peyton joined Silver Creek church June 1806.

"John Peyton, Jr., who died in 1882 was a son of Daniel Peyton.

"John Peyton, Sr., his wife, Daniel Peyton, his wife and John Peyton, Jr., are all buried in Silver Creek Cemetery.

"The WORRALLS came here at an early day. James Worrall, Sr., was the father of this family. He came from Kentucky in about 1797. His wife was a sister of John McDonald, Sr. He settled on the farm known as the "Worrall farm," which John Nicholson, Jr., now owns.

Mr. Worrall's family was large, namely: Isaac, James, John, Thomas, Clayborn, Alfred and Daniel. There were three daughters. One married Phillip Rogers, Sr., a second Henry Wilson, and a third, Madison Hodges.

"James Worrell, Sr., was an earnest member of old Silver Creek church. He joined the church in 1816 by experience and baptism.

"Isaac Worrall was received into the church April 1816. He was an earnest preacher and a good man. He was the father of Rev.'s John and Moses Worrall. Rev. John is a pastor of a Presbyterian church in New York City, and Rev. Moses is the pastor of much successof one of the leading Baptist churches in Detroit, Michigan.

"James Worrall, Jr., joined Silver Creek church April 1817.

"None of this family is buried here. Their place of burying is at the Worrall grave yard, one mile east of this.

"We see here also the name of HARROD. William and Samuel are the ancestors of this family. William Harrod, Sr., was a member and Elder of the old church as early as 1804. He lived in the vicinity of Memphis. Many years ago he moved to Bloomington, Ind., and died there.

"Samuel Harrod was the father of Henry Harrod and Squire William Harrod. His daughters were Sarah, Katie and Mary. The first was the first wife of Lewis Bottorff, a second married George Taft and a third David Reed. Mr. Samuel Harrod, his wife, his son Henry, ex-clerk of this county, and many of the grandchildren are buried here.

"The PERRY family is of English nativity. The great grand-father of Isaac T. Perry, who lives near Slate-Cut, was a soldier in the American Revolutionary War, and an officer of rank under General

Washington. He lived and died in Maryland. His son, Edward Perry, came West from Maryland to Kentucky, and settled on Bear Grass Creek, opposite Utica. In about 1798, he moved to this side of the Ohio river to the place where William Perry lived, about one mile from this place. His sons were William, John, Edward and Joseph. All these sons were in the battle of Tippecanoe. The names of Amelia, Elizabeth, William and Jerry Perry appear on the old church roll.

"Members of the Perry family belonging to the first, second and third generation are buried in Silver Creek cemetery.

"The BOTTORFFS are Pennsylvania Germans. They came from Pennsylvania to Kentucky sometime between 1790 and 1800. Simon Bottorff, Sr., was the father of this the most numerous family in Clark county. He had eight sons, viz.: Henry, John, Peter, Jacob, Samuel, Lewis, William and George. His only daughter was the wife of John Canote, Sr. Mr. Simon Bottorff, Sr., was a minister of the United Brethren faith. He never came to Indiana Territory. He died in Kentucky.

"All the sons of Simon Bottorff, Sr., settled in this Territory. None of this name were ever connected with Silver Creek church. They were Methodists. Peter and Samuel were Methodist preachers.

"Benjamin and William, sons of old Uncle Henry Bottorff, are buried here, and also his daughter, Mrs. Nancy Harrod and a number of others of the same name and family.

"John NORRIS, or "Captain Norris," as he was familiarly called, was a leading member of Silver Creek church. He joined the church in 1814. He was Captain of a company of men in the battle of Tippecanoe. He lived in the vicinity of Bethany church. He was a preacher and frequently exercised his gifts in this particular.

"The McCOY family came to this vicinity as early as 1800. The

family is of Scotch origin.

"Elder Wm. McCoy came to Kentucky from Pennsylvania in 1790. He had four sons and two daughters. The names of the sons were James, John, Isaac and Royse. Those of the daughters, Sarah and Lydia. Elder Wm. McCoy did not move to this Territory until 1811. He was a Baptist preacher. He often came from his home in Kentucky to Silver Creek to preach, at times preaching at the homes of either Elisha Carr or William Coombs, in the Grove or at the church. When he came to this Territory, he settled where my father (Collins McCoy) lived. He and his wife were received into Silver Creek church, April 27, 1811. He died in Charlestown in 1813. His wife survived him until 1834.

"On his tombstone are the following expressive lines:

"Pause here one moment, thou that readest this;
He still would point thee to eternal bliss.
His life was peaceful, and his faith was true;
And what he taught, he taught from what he knew."

"James McCoy came to this Territory in 1800. He settled on the farm now owned by Baumgartle near to the Anson farm. Mr. James McCoy was received into the Silver Creek church by experience and baptism, October 1801, and the next month he was chosen church clerk, which office he held until October 1816, when he and his wife took letters, and with their family moved to Washington county, Indiana. James McCoy was the first man to drive a four horse team across the "Flower Gap Knob." He was a school teacher and preacher. His teaching and preaching was very acceptable to the people. He was father of John P. McCoy who preached here for a year or more some fifteen

years ago, and now lives at Clear Spring in Jackson county, Ind. Rev. James McCoy and his wife died of cholera in Salem, Ind., in 1833.

"John McCoy, my grandfather, came here in 1804. He raised his first crop of corn in the field just west of the Worrell Cemetery, on the farm of old Uncle William Coombs, Sr. In 1806 he settled on land of his own on the Muddy Fork where Speed's Cememnt Mills are located. In 1810 he removed to the east side of Silver Creek, settling first where his son Lewis afterwards lived, and last where my father lived.

"John McCoy had a family of ten children. Six sons and four daughters; of these seven are dead and four of the dead are buried here, namely, Mahala, who died when eleven years old, Collins, Lewis and Lydia. He was chairman of the building committee which built the brick church in 1823-24. He joined the church October 1824, and was baptized by Absalom Littell. He died 1859. Both he and his wife are buried here.

"Rev. Isaac McCoy was born in Fayette county, Pa., 1784. He married Miss Kitty Polk, a distant relative of President Polk. He came from Kentucky to this Territory in 1806, and settled on land near the Zebulon Colling settlement. He and his wife joined Silver Creek church by letter in 1806. In 1807 he began to preach, and, in after years, he became an Indian Missionary. Of him it has been said, "that what Judson was to Burmah, Isaac McCoy has been to America."

"He labored for thirty years teaching and preaching among the Indians. He made as many as twenty-two trips, on horse-back to Wash-

ington City, to communicate to Congress facts and plans concerning the Indians and their final removal and settlement west of the Mississippi river. He preached the first sermon preached in Chicago in 1825.

"He died June 1846 in Louisville, Ky., and is buried in one of the cemeteries of that city.

"Rev. Royce McCoy was the youngest son of Elder Wm. McCoy, Sr. He was received into Silver Creek church in 1810. He lived in Charlestown and was a wheel-wright by trade. He married Miss Malinda Pound near Charlestown. He was the church clerk for two years, 1816 to 1818. The church licensed him to preach. He was a man of warm earnest sympathy. In 1818 he removed to Washington county, Ind. He died near the village of Livonia, near which both he and his wife are buried.

"The McCoys have been connected with Silver Creek from almost the very first, and there are those of the name belonging to the first, second, third, fourth and fifth generation buried in this cemetery.

"The LISTER family came from England. John Lister came to America in 1817. He stopped first at Zanesville, Ohio, for two years. He then came to Indiana, making the trip from Ohio on horseback. In 1820 his wife, two children, father, mother, two brothers, William and Joseph, and cousin, Lister Stockwell came from England to this country. On their way the father sickened and died, and was buried at Marietta, Ohio.

"John Lister settled on the farm where his son John D. now lives. The brother Joseph, settled on the Kellogg or Talbot farm. In 1852 Joseph Lister sold his farm to Dr. A. S. Kellogg; moved to

Covington, Ky., and took charge of a Cotton Mill. He after a time bought a farm near Cincinnati, where he lived and died.

"William Lister was never married. He made his home with his brother John. William died in 1858. John Lister died in 1851 and his wife in 1867. Some ten or more of this name and family are buried in our Cemetery.

"The McCORMICKS came from Virginia to this State in 1824. Hudson McCormick was the father of this family. He settled on the "Oleghorn" farm which John Canote, Jr., lately owned. He was brother-in-law of old "Uncle Billy" Crawford. His sons, Thomas and John, each married daughters of John McCoy, Sr., and his son Samuel married a daughter of "Uncle Henry Bottorff."

"Thomas McCormick and wife and others of the name are buried here.

"Dr. A. G. KELLOGG came to Indiana from one of the Eastern States. He bought Joseph Lister's farm in 1832, where he lived until 1851, at which date he sold his farm to Dr. Talbot, and removed to Iowa, where he died. His first wife is buried in this Cemetery.

"Dr. Kellogg was a good neighbor, frequently preached, worked in the Sabbath school and encouraged morality in the community.

"John G. Kahl, the father of friend Wm. Kahl, came from Germany in 1855 with his wife and five sons. He was a citizen of the Province of Nassau. He settled near here on a small tract of land, which his son William now owns. He died in 1856, and his wife in 1864. Both are buried here. These two German people were of sterling qualities and character. All their sons are of our best citizens.

"James KIRKPATRICK was of Irish nativity. He came to this State

from Lexington, Ky. He was president of the meeting when our Association was organized. He took a great interest in our Cemetery and annual meetings. As long as he lived he never failed to meet with us and say something encouraging and good. He was born in 1814 and died 1880. He and a daughter are buried here.

"Jonah HARRIS settled here in 1822. He was born in Kentucky in 1793. He bought the farm of Elisha Carr, Sr., where Wm. Kahl now lives. Both he and his wife joined Silver Creek by letter 1823. Mr. Jonah Harris was the third member of the building committee of which John Bowell and John McCoy were members, and built the church house in 1823-24. His wife died of cholera in 1833, and is buried here. Mr. Harris died in Charlestown about four years ago, aged nearly ninety.

"There are others of whom it is our duty to make honorable mention, whose history we do not know, but they were connected with either Silver Creek church or the Cemetery at an early day, and who also contributed very much towards establishing the good character of this community. We cannot pass their names in silence. They are

"Thomas Downs, James Downs, Mrs. Priscilla Downs,

"William E. Collins, Zebulon Collins, Spencer Collins,

"David Gray, Mrs. Polly Gray and Mrs. Jane Grey,

"John Griffith,

"Ben. Brewer,

"John Jackson and Jeremiah Jackson."

SURNAME INDEX

* -- This family includes a soldier of the American Revolution.

Anson 9

Baumgartle 9

Bottorff 1, 7, 8, 12

Bowell 1, 3, 13

Brewer 13

Bright 1

Broadstreet 1, 4

*Carr 3, 4, 9, 13

Cleghorn 12

Colling (Collins) 10, 13

Coombs 1, 3, 5, 9, 10

Crawford 12

Crim 2

Diedrich 4

Downs 13

Drummonds 3

Ganote 8, 12

Gray 13

Griffith 13

Harris 1, 13

Harrod 1, 7, 8

Hobbs 1

Hodges 7

Jackson 1, 13

Kahl 1, 12, 13

Kellogg 1, 11, 12

*Kelly 1, 3, 4

Kirkpatrick 12, 13

Lister (Leister) 1, 11, 12

Littell 1, 2, 3, 6

McCormick 1, 12

*McCoy 1, 2, 4, 8-11, 12, 13

McDonald 6

Moore 1

Nicholson 6

Norris 1, 8

Nugent 1, 5

Payne 1, 4

*Perry 1, 4, 7, 8

Petijohn 1

Peyton 1, 4, 6

Polk 10

Pound 11

Reed 7

Rogers 7

Sellers 1, 4, 5

Stockwell 11

Taft 7

Talbot 11, 12

Tilford 1

White 1, 4, 5

Wilson 7

Worrall (Worrell) 1, 6, 7

ECKHART PUBLIC LIBRARY
8401 9100 137 721 3

HECKMAN
BINDERY, INC.
Bound-To-Please®
APRIL 05
N. MANCHESTER, INDIANA 46962